

2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SUPPORT NO FLY, NO BUY LEGISLATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, last week's tragic events in London reminded us that terrorists can strike anywhere, at any time. We must prepare to prevent any kind of scenario that will allow attacks. Terrorists have proven to be innovative in their methods to kill innocent people. We must work to shut down as many avenues of terror as possible or at least make it more difficult for them to carry out their acts.

But since 9/11, the U.S. has dedicated 90 percent of its domestic preparedness resources to preventing an attack involving commercial air travel. While safe air travel is important, we do not pay attention to other possible scenarios, and it is irresponsible of us to do that. It is time for all of us to be proactive instead of reactive in our homeland security strategy.

One area of homeland security that needs to be reviewed is our pre-9/11 gun laws. Mr. Speaker, we are at war, and our gun laws currently allow our enemies to arm themselves in our country.

At least 44 times in a 4-month period, people whom the FBI suspected of being members of terrorist groups tried to buy guns. In all but nine instances, the purchases were allowed to go through. Affiliation with a terrorist group does not appear on any Federal background check that would disqualify someone from buying a gun.

There certainly have been many more instances of suspected members of terrorist groups trying to buy guns since then, but since the Justice Department destroys background check records after only 24 hours, we will never know. So not only are we allowing suspected terrorists to arm themselves, we are destroying the records indicating how many guns they actually own. We are destroying critical intelligence in this war on terror.

The question my constituents ask me is, why are these people allowed to buy guns in the first place? It defies common sense. We saw what these terrorists are capable of doing just armed with only a box cutter purchased at a hardware store. Then why do we make it so easy for them to be able to buy guns at stores and at gun shows?

The very same people we spend 90 percent of our homeland security funds on to prevent boarding planes can walk into any gun store and purchase an Uzi, AK-47 or a 50 caliber rifle that can shoot down an airplane, whether it is taking off or landing. This is absolutely ridiculous.

Let me set the record straight: I am not trying to take away the right from anyone of being able to buy a gun. These are law-abiding citizens. They have a right to buy a gun. But we do need commonsense gun safety regulations to protect law-abiding gun owners while making it tougher for criminals and certainly terrorists to be able to obtain a gun.

That is why I introduced the No Fly, No Buy bill. Right now, if you are on a terrorist watch list and you cannot board a plane, you are allowed to go into any gun store or go to a gun show and be able to buy a gun. That is ludicrous.

What my bill would do, if you are on a terrorist no fly list, you would not be able to also buy a gun. I understand that mistakes can be made, and on those mistakes, the list that I have chosen that the FBI has, if you are innocent, you will be able to come off that list.

We have to start having a different dialogue on gun violence in this country. But certainly what we learned from London last week, and we do not know if we have terrorists in this country or not, they always wait until we are least suspecting them, we need to do what we can to make sure guns do not get into the wrong hands.

This is not going to take away anyone's right to own a gun, to go hunting, to protect their families. But we can do a better job, especially working in the times that we are working in today.

BENEFITS OF ETHANOL USE TO AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, as many Americans are aware, the Senate has passed a version of the energy bill, the House has passed their version of the energy bill, and, as often happens, the two versions are not the same. So, at the present time, the energy bill is in conference.

One major difference between the House version and the Senate version is in the renewable fuels section. In the House, we mandate 5 billion gallons of ethanol be produced in this country by 2012. The Senate version requires 8 billion gallons rather than 5 billion. So there is a substantial difference.

In 2004, the United States produced 3.6 billion gallons; this year, 4.5 billion gallons of ethanol. And we should reach the 5 billion gallon standard by 2006. So the House version is relatively meaningless, because by saying that we want 5 billion gallons in 2012, we will have already reached that by 2006.

So we are obviously very supportive, many of us, of the 8 billion gallon standard, and I rise tonight to encourage that that be what is included in the conference report.

Currently, ethanol is produced in 20 States, including California and Kentucky. At one time, it was assumed that ethanol was something that was only produced in five or six midwestern states. Ethanol could be made from almost any type of biomass, and I think eventually we will see ethanol production in all 50 States.

The ethanol industry benefits all Americans, not just those in the corn-producing States of the Midwest. Currently, ethanol reduces the price of an average gallon of gasoline by roughly 29 cents, so if we are paying \$2.20 a gallon at the pump today, if it were not for the ethanol industry, it would be \$2.50, \$2.51, something in that range. E-85, with 85 percent ethanol, at the present time is roughly 60 cents cheaper than regular gasoline. So in many areas of the country, E-85 is selling for \$1.60 a gallon as opposed to \$2.20 or \$2.25.

Ethanol creates more energy than it consumes. This is something lots of people are not aware of.

For instance, for every one Btu of energy, ethanol produces 1.389 Btu of energy. So by the time you have planted the crop, you have harvested it, you have processed it, you have refined it, you gain almost four-tenths of a Btu. The reason for that is that we are harnessing the energy of the sun in making ethanol.

Conversely, gasoline, for every 1 Btu of energy used, produces eight-tenths of a Btu of energy once it is refined. MTBE produces 6.675 Btus. So there is a considerable energy loss in these areas. Again, this is a misconception that many people have that ethanol uses more energy than it really produces. This is not true.

As MTBE is phased out due to groundwater contamination, ethanol is the primary remaining eliminator of greenhouse gas emissions. In 2004, ethanol reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 7 million tons in the United States, which was a huge environmental benefit.

The ethanol industry added \$25 billion to the U.S. economy in 2004. The ethanol industry has added 243,000 jobs to our economy, and above all, it has moved us away from dependence on foreign oil.

There are just a couple of other things I would like to mention that we have on the following chart. You will notice that, currently, ethanol adds \$51 billion to farm income over 10 years. The reason for this is that ethanol increases the price of a bushel of corn by 25 to 50 cents a bushel.

It reduces government farm payments by \$5.9 billion over 10 years. The reason for that is it raises the price of corn. Therefore, there are fewer farm bill payments that drain money from the taxpayers, so this is a good thing

for the average taxpayer in the country.

It also reduces the U.S. trade deficit by roughly \$34 billion, and this is huge, because what is eating our economy alive is a huge trade deficit at the present time. As we remove ourselves from dependence on foreign oil, which is the main cause of the trade deficit, we begin to see things turn around because of ethanol.

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And as I mentioned earlier, it does significantly reduce air pollution. So we think this is a win-win for the American economy, for the American people; and I urge my colleagues to support the higher level of 8 billion gallons of ethanol that is currently in the Senate version of the energy bill.

REMEMBERING GAYLORD NELSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KUHLMAN of New York). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to say goodbye to our former Governor and former Senator, Gaylord Nelson, who passed away at the age of 89 last week. Wisconsin will miss the man from Clear Lake, who embodied the best of our great State and its proud, progressive tradition, as well as the best our country can offer.

Throughout his many years of public service, Senator Nelson worked tirelessly on behalf of the people of Wisconsin, this country, and the environment. He was one of the first to recognize that economic development and the protection of our natural resources are not mutually exclusive.

He was also keenly aware that public opinion was far ahead of public policy in this area and that policymakers needed to catch up to where the American people were. Most importantly, he recognized the value in doing a better job of protecting the land, the water, the air we breathe, and the environment of which we are mere stewards for our children and grandchildren.

In addition, Senator Nelson rightly believed that we have an obligation to work together, all of us as citizens of this planet, to better preserve and protect our natural resources so that we leave the world for our children better off than we found it.

It was his vision that led to the creation of Earth Day in 1970 and a new compact between government and its citizens to enhance the protection and quality of our precious natural resources. Earth Day was then followed by the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency and then the passage of the Clean Air and the Clean Water acts.

Thirty-five years later we have taken great strides to improve the environmental stewardship across the entire globe. Earth Day today is celebrated

annually by hundreds of millions of people in more than 180 countries. How many other individuals can claim they created a global movement of such magnitude?

Senator Nelson was also someone who recognized that even with all of the progress we had made, our work is far from finished. Until recently, he remained active in the environmental field and provided guidance to others, including myself, on some of the unfinished work still left to do.

There is no other individual that has had a greater impact on shaping the respect and appreciation we have for our environment today. His contributions are invaluable. We owe him a debt of gratitude that we can repay by continuing his work.

Senator, Governor, Father of Earth Day, a veteran of World War II, friend, these are among the many ways Gaylord Nelson will be remembered. He leaves behind a legacy and a lesson that one person with a vision of change and a mountain of determination can have a profound effect on the direction of our country and of the world.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Carrie Lee and the entire Nelson family. I will never forget during our first campaign, when my wife, Tawni, and I were with Senator Nelson and Carrie Lee up in Clear Lake, Wisconsin. They wowed us with their elegance, their grace, their dignity, and they became our role models of what public service should be all about.

Services this week will be held in Madison and in Clear Lake, Wisconsin. We loved him. We will miss him. And we all can honor him by continuing his unfinished work. May the Good Lord bless and keep the great American patriot Gaylord Nelson.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GUTKNECHT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

WOMEN'S ACTION PUBLIC AFFAIRS TEAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity tonight to address the positive effects which American foreign policy has had on the rights of women throughout the world.

As vice-Chair of the Congressional Women's Caucus and as Chair of the House International Relations Subcommittee on Middle East and Central Asia, I have witnessed U.S. efforts to support women across the globe, especially in post-conflict situations.

The progress is historic. Just ask the survivors of Saddam Hussein's regime

and the Taliban. The Saddam Hussein regime in Iraq indiscriminately slaughtered all Iraqis, but the women were among the most vulnerable.

The notorious Fedayeen beheaded women in public and dumped their severed heads at their families' doorsteps. The regime used widespread rape to extract confessions from detainees. Saddam Hussein's legacy of terror knew no boundaries.

In assessing U.S. contributions to Iraqi women, I look to leaders such as Dr. Khuzai, who served as a member of the Iraqi Governing Council and National Council of Women. After being prisoners in their own country for 35 years, she said, for the Iraqi women, the morale is so high that you cannot understand it unless you go and see. We will be grateful forever.

I was fortunate to have the opportunity to visit Iraq as part of a historic all-female congressional delegation. We met with women from all sectors and all educational backgrounds, and the message we heard from all of these women was very clear: They want a say, they want a role, they want to participate, and they want to have the U.S. help them in getting there.

To achieve this end, the United States is helping Iraqi women reintegrate themselves into Iraqi society and indeed to the outside world. The administration embarked on the Iraqi Women's Democracy Initiative to train Iraqi women in the skills and practices of democratic public life.

It also established the U.S. Iraqi Women's Network, helping to mobilize the private sector in the United States and to link important resources here to critical needs on the ground. Recently, we saw the fruits of our efforts as countless Iraqi women went to the polls.

U.S. efforts have contributed to a significant positive change in the lives of women in Afghanistan. In Afghanistan, the Taliban's brutality and blatant disregard for the lives and well being of the Afghan people was perhaps most clearly evident among half of its population, the women of Afghanistan. Made widows and orphans by the will of the Taliban, they were banned from receiving any education past the age of 8, for which the curriculum was limited to the Taliban's corrupted version of the Koran.

In the year 2000, the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization estimated that as few as 3 percent of Afghan girls were receiving primary education. Today, it is thrilling to note that thanks to our U.S. efforts, Afghan women are active participants in their political future. More than 8 million Afghans voted in this country's first-ever presidential election, and 41 percent of them were women.

Hamid Karzai was announced as the official winner; and in his new cabinet appointments, he named three women as ministers. We as a Nation provided political and advocacy training for Afghan women and provided the funds to